Welcome, Returning Students!

The Weather

Today: Sunny, 77°F (25°C) Tonight: Clear and cool, 58°F (14°C) Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, 86°F (30°C) Details, Page 2

ne 123, Number 36

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Thursday, August 28, 2003

More Freshmen Request Move in Lottery | CityDays

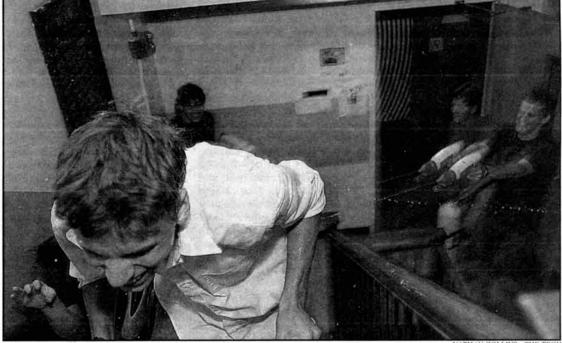
One in five freshmen requested a move in this year's adjustment lottery, up from one in seven last year. Of the 1022 freshmen, 200 requested a change and 110 were able to

Denise A. Vallay, assistant director for undergraduate housing, said that she believes that a higher percentage of freshmen entered the lottery this year because its purpose was better explained to the fresh-

"It was advertised more and encouraged more," Vallay said. "At East Campus in particular, the parties were encouraging people to explore and take a look around."

Overall participation in the lottery was down from last year, when responses were received from 80 percent of the class, including those who were requesting to stay in their assigned dormitory. This year, 706 freshmen, or 70 percent of the class, responded in the lottery.

We tried to make it as mandatory as possible," said Anthony E. Gray PhD '01, project director for graduate housing and a consultant



East Campus' First East Civil War got ugly when members of one army turned on each other. The fighters later regrouped and invaded Third East as part of hall rush activities Wednesday night.

for this year's lottery. "Nearly half the class went there just to request

The dormitories with the highest percentage of assigned students requesting a move were Senior

House (66 percent), East Campus

At Record **Turnout**

By Kathy Lin

A record 833 people are expected to attend tomorrow's twelfth annual CityDays, a campus-wide event run by the MIT Public Service Center that places students at community agencies for a day of ser-

"CityDays is a great opportunity for us as students to give back to the community while learning about the city around us," wrote Vincent Chen '05, this year's CityDays coordinator, in the CityDays pamphlet.

In 2001, about 400 students participated. Last year, just over 600 students participated - a number that was considered "really large" at the time, said Assistant Director of the Public Service Center Jill E.

"I'm really excited about the

LSC Adds Optional Movie Captions

By Michael E. Rolish STAFF REPORTER

The Lecture Series Committee will provide optional captioning for many of their movies beginning this

"There was a student who asked the disabilities services office if there was any captioning at LSC movies," said LSC Chairman Alex

Rolfe G. "The DSO asked LSC and the answer was 'No, but such systems do exist.' So we did the research on it and DSO decided to sponsor the purchase."

The captioning system is intended for those with hearing impairments. According to Aaron M. Donaghey of the disabilities services office, there are several students

with such impairments registered with the office, and probably more who are not registered.

It's important that everything be available and accessible to all students on campus, whether they have a physical disability, a learning disability, or a psychiatric disabili-

Captions, Page 14

Into MIT's Hidden Places: Follow the Orange Florey By Eun J. Lee

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Okay, I'll admit it. When I was a freshman, I was totally clueless

During orientation, I yoinked a promotional plastic cup from

the Fleet table on Kresge Oval after what I felt was an adequate one minute mock inquiry with the middle-aged lady behind the table about Fleet's banking services. In my hasty grab for that coveted green plastic booty, I failed to notice a small orange sliver of paper hidden inside.

It wasn't until a little later while sitting on the Student Center steps that I noticed the strip of orange.

"Meet in the East Campus courtyard tonight at midnight to glimpse MIT from a slightly different view," the paper read.

I looked up wide-eyed and suspiciously, eyeing those around me. Who had slipped this message into my cup? Surely not the Fleet lady. I looked at her shiftily across the lawn talking to more students. I looked around the oval, but everyone else seemed innocent. It was an eerie feeling.

I'd like to say that I made the rendezvous point that night, but I didn't.

Trekking all the way to the other side of campus where I didn't know anyone was pretty intimidating, and I also had no idea what would await me there. I learned soon after that night the significance of the mes-

This past Tuesday night, three years after receiving that first message-in-a-Fleet-cup, I finally took the infamous Orange Tour during my last year as an undergraduate at

"I'm not here ... but call me Jack"

Through the years, I've heard the typical stories about the Orange Tour, its smaller citrus sister, the Tangerine Tour, and its harder-core brother, the Spelunkers' Tour. Yet, I had no idea what to expect when I arrived at EC ten minutes late with a group of close friends.

We milled around for a few minutes before we were approached by two people wearing black shirts, one of which read "I am not here." They escorted us through the basement of Building 66 and into tunnels that lead to the Green building. We soon arrived at the starting point for the tour - the all-too-familiar lecture hall, 54-100.

We were one of the first groups to arrive, and as we sat and waited in the front row, a steady stream of tour takers accompanied by black shirts trickled in until 54-100 was around three-quarters full.

Someone in a black shirt stood on top of the table at the front of the lecture hall and raised one hand, and members of the audience followed in suit. This signal for silence was

Tour, Page 6



Michael N. Beregovsky '06, left, scores a point against fencing partner Galen E. Pickard '05 at the Athletics Gateway in Rockwell Cage Wednesday afternoon.

This will be our last Orientation issue. The Tech will resume normal Tuesday-Friday publication on Friday, Sept. 5.



Comics

Page 10

Fred Choi declares Camp Ovation predictable with occasional interesting moments.

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Page 9

WORLD & NATION

Druce Was Angry, Unwanted As a Child, Court Records Show

THE BOSTON GLOBE

Darrin Smiledge was an unplanned child, his mother said, and his birth process was "a disaster and I wanted to die." By age 9, Darrin was obsessed with sex and violent fantasies, often picking on smaller children, and Donna Smiledge blamed his frequent misbehavior on his hatred for her, according to court records released Wednesday.

Smiledge, who changed his name in 1999 to Joseph L. Druce, grew up to be a murderer, killing an older man because he was 'bored," according to a psychologist who testified on his behalf at the 1989 trial for the slaying.

Druce, the angry, unwanted child, is now accused of strangling John J. Geoghan, the defrocked priest who authorities say was killed Saturday in a state prison cell.

A fuller picture of Druce's life emerged Wednesday in psychiatric testimony and documents entered into evidence during his 1989 murder trial. They painted him as a man given to deviant behavior, a hatred of authority, and the inability to deal with boredom.

Though mental health professionals, writing in reports submitted to his elementary school, indicated that Druce suffered from a personality disorder as a child, a psychologist who testified on his behalf in the murder trial said he suffered from severe attention deficit disorder.

Bush Loosens Clean Air Law

The Bush administration relaxed its clean air rules on Wednesday to allow thousands of industrial plants to make upgrades without installing pollution controls, arguing that other regulations were in place to reduce emissions

Utilities, which sought the new rule, said it would allow them to make improvements that will ensure the reliability of the power supply, a high-profile issue after the Aug. 14 power failure that led to the biggest blackout in the nation's history.

In one of its most far-reaching environmental actions, the Bush administration signed a rule that will allow thousands of power plants, refineries, pulp and paper mills, chemical plants and other industrial facilities to make extensive upgrades that increase their pollutants without having to install new antipollution devices. The rule, for which industries have lobbied the Bush administration for two years, could save them billions of dollars.

Administration officials said it would clarify an otherwise subjective standard and allow plants to modernize more easily, thus leading to greater efficiency and potentially lower consumer costs.

Germany May Be Willing To Expand Military Presence in Iraq

Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder said Wednesday that Germany would expand its military presence in Afghanistan if the United Nations extended the mandate for the international force there.

Schroeder, speaking after a meeting with his defense and foreign ministers, told reporters that he would seek parliamentary approval to send 250 German troops to Kunduz, a city about 150 miles north of Kabul.

If the troops are sent, it will be a significant expansion not only of Germany's role in Afghanistan but also of the operations of the International Security Assistance Force, which until now has been restricted to the area around the Afghan capital.

Germany now contributes about 2,000 troops to the 5,000-member force, command of which was transferred from the United Nations to NATO this month.

U.S. May OK U.N.-Sponsored Multinational Force in Iraq

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Bush administration has signaled for the first time that it might be willing to allow a multinational force in Iraq to operate under the sponsorship of the United Nations as long it is led by an U.S. commander.

The idea was described by Richard L. Armitage, the deputy secretary of state, as just "one idea being explored" in discussions at the United Nations. It was first hinted at publicly last week by Kofi A. Annan SM '72, the U.N. secretary general.

Armitage's remarks, made on Tuesday to regional reporters and released by the State Department on Wednesday, marked a potential shift in course for the administration, which has until now insisted that all military, economic and political matters in Iraq remain under total U.S. control. Allowing the United Nations to have a leadership role would be intended to win support of the Security Council for a new mandate authorizing the U.S.-led occupation of the

In his remarks, Armitage declined to discuss the plans in any

detail, saying, "I don't think it helps to throw them out publicly right now." But he described the arrangement under consideration as "a multinational force under U.N. leadership" in which "the American would be the U.N. commander."

On Monday, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld was asked whether he could envision U.S. troops fighting under U.N. command. His answer: "I think that's not going to happen." But he went on to rule out only "a blue-hatted leadership" - meaning by the United Nations, whose troops wear blue helmets — over a peacekeeping force in Iraq.

The Pentagon has historically opposed any arrangement in which U.S. troops are not under U.S. command, and Rumsfeld has expressed opposition to putting the current U.S. force in Iraq under U.N. oversight.

But administration officials said the Somalian force in place in the early 1990s, however flawed from a political standpoint, might at least provide an administrative model. In that case, the U.N. force was put under the command of an U.S. general who maintained direct control

A State Department official said that Secretary of State Colin L. Powell had discussed the possibility of U.N. sponsorship with Annan last week during a meeting in New York. The official said the discussions had the full support of the White House, but said no decisions were expected until late September, when foreign ministers gather in New York for the opening of the U.N. General Assembly.

Whether any arrangement that might be worked out for U.N. sponsorship of military operations would be more than a fig leaf was unclear Wednesday. Pentagon officials would almost certainly would resist any relinquishment of military command and control to U.N. authorities, but Russia, France, and other permanent members of the Security Council might well seek some kind of a voice in decision making as a price for a new mandate.

The apparent flexibility on Iraq policy appears to reflect deepening concern within the administration about the unwillingness of many other countries, including France and Russia, to contribute troops and money to the U.S.-led effort in

U.S., N. Korea Meet in Person **For First Time in Four Months**

By Joseph Kahn THE NEW YORK TIMES

The United States and North Korea had their first face-to-face meeting in four months here Wednesday afternoon as part of sixnation negotiations on how to end North Korea's nuclear program, but diplomats downplayed prospects for an early breakthrough.

James A. Kelly, assistant secretary of state, and Kim Yong II, North Korea's deputy foreign minister, met together on the sidelines of formal discussions, breaking a freeze on direct dialogue that began after a stormy meeting in April in which North Korea warned that it was moving quickly to develop and deploy nuclear arms.

The Bush administration had insisted for months that it would only hold talks with North Korea in a multilateral setting because, it argued, only collective pressure would persuade North Korea to dismantle it nuclear program. It got its way when North Korea dropped its insistence on direct talks and agreed, after extensive efforts by China, to hold unusual simultaneous negotiations with China, Japan, South Korea and Russia as well as the United States.

Though Bush administration officials had not ruled out talking privately with the North Koreans during a broader meeting, the fact that Kelly and Kim met on the first day was seen as a sign of modest flexibility on the U.S. side.

China has taken an unusually active role in trying to find common ground between the entrenched positions of the United States and North Korea. Beijing used shuttle diplomacy to arrange the talks, bringing the Americans and the North Koreans to the table along with the Russians, South Koreans and Japanese.

At the minimum, China hopes to see the United States and North Korea commit to keep talking, and it used the first day of talks to begin pressing the participants to agree on language for a multiparty declaration that would provide a framework for future negotiations, said a foreign policy expert who has close ties to the Chinese foreign ministry.

Two Seasons

By Robert Lindsay Korty

STAFF METEROROLOGIST

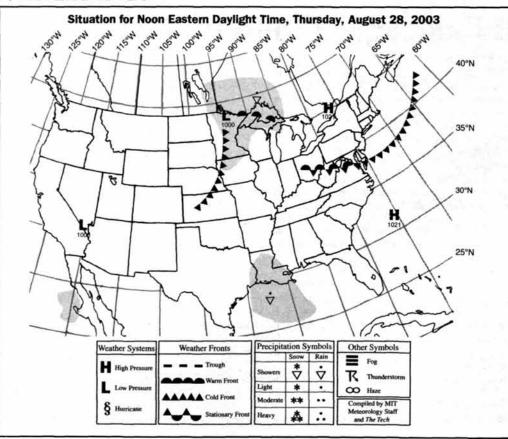
Far out in the Atlantic Ocean, near 15°N 32°W, the tenth tropical depression of the season formed. Five storms have formed out of the previous nine depressions, including a rare one in April, only the second time an Atlantic tropical storm had formed during that month. Typically, late August to early October is the busiest time of the season, as water temperatures reach their warmest values of the year. Disturbances moving off of the African coast can form tropical cyclones in the eastern Atlantic, strengthen, and continue to the western side of the basin when located far enough south so that they are embedded in the deep tropical easterlies. With the dearth of measurements taken over the oceans, forecasts are usually only accurate about two days in advance. It is too early to say whether the new tropical depression, which will be named Fabian once its winds strengthen to 40 mph, will eventually threaten landmasses in the western Atlantic.

Closer to home, a front has passed offshore; today will be delightfully cool as northerly winds rotate around a center of Canadian high pressure. As the high slides east, winds will switch back to the south, and a front over the Midwest today will travel east and stall just south of New England this weekend. The proximity of the stalled front makes this weekend's forecast difficult. There could be considerable cloudiness with scattered showers, but the front's exact position will dictate how much sun shines through.

Extended Forecast

Today: Sunny. High of 77°F (25°C). Tonight: Clear and cool. Low 58°F (14°C).

Friday: Partly cloudy and more humid with a chance of evening showers or thunderstorms. Warmer, with a high of 86°F (30°C). Low 68°F (20°C). Saturday: Variably cloudy with scattered showers. High 82°F (28°C).



U.S. Close to Agreeing to Help **Poor Countries Buy Medicines**

By Elizabeth Becker THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The United States said on Wednesday that it was close to accepting an agreement, which it had rejected last December, to help poor nations buy generic medicines through exemptions from trade rules.

The reversal by Washington meant to improve the access of millions of people in those countries to expensive patented medicines for AIDS, malaria and other diseases would enhance the Bush administration's international standing and could prevent the collapse of global trade talks to be held in Mexico next

After weeks of intensive negotiations, the United States won assurances that countries would not take advantage of the arrangement to increase exports of generic drugs, diplomats involved in the discussions said. They said an agreement could come as soon as Thursday.

These global public health decisions are being made by the World

tects intellectual property rights, including the copyrights of pharmaceutical companies.

For years, poor countries have used moral and political arguments, saying concerns about copyright protection paled in comparison with the need of millions of poor people for advanced medicines that could

Deputy Trade Representative Peter Allgeier said Wednesday in a telephone conference call from Geneva that he hoped to reach an agreement before the formal meeting of the WTO began in Cancun, Mexico.

"It is possible," Allgeier said. "We are still working very intensively on that.'

Allgeier refused to discuss details. "It is so sensitive," he said.

But Faizel Ismail, the permanent representative of South Africa to the WTO, who was part of the private negotiations, said the United States accepted the deal because of new assurances that it will not be abused by the countries in need of generic malaria and tuberculosis.

We were willing to reach out to the American pharmaceutical industry and find a way of including them in the consensus without sacrificing the substance of the agreement, Ismail said in a telephone interview from Geneva, Switzerland.

Developing nations had pinned their hopes on such an agreement. The European Union and Switzerland, the other big producers of medicines, signed off on a deal last December to allow poor nations to buy generic medicines.

But the United States, with the strong approval of the U.S. pharmaceutical industry, blocked the deal by exercising the veto that every member nation possesses at the WTO.

That move upended the timetable for the current round of trade negotiations that is dedicated to helping developing nations, and put the United States in the embarrassing position of being the lone nation opposing a solution to make vital drugs affordable for the poorest people on earth.

Shuttle Report Sparks Discussion In Congress About Future Plans

By Sheryl Gay Stolberg

WASHINGTON

A report citing a "broken safety culture" at NASA has provoked a wide-ranging debate in Congress over the future of the space program, with some lawmakers suggesting that human spaceflight be curtailed and others promoting a broad expansion of space exploration, including a revival of longshelved plans to send astronauts to

With Congress set to return next week from its August recess, lawmakers are already planning an ambitious series of hearings on the report, issued Tuesday by an independent panel investigating the breakup of the space shuttle Columbia. The sessions will open a farranging discussion of national space policy

"We are going to have to examine the whole issue of the future of manned space travel, where the emphasis should be, what our priorities are," said Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, one of two congressional panels planning hearings for next week. He said legislation might result, "depending on

Aside from correcting the safety problems at NASA as quickly as possible, lawmakers of both parties said their primary goal was to develop a new vision for space exploration, something the panel said has been greatly lacking for decades. Some called on President Bush to articulate his own agenda.

'The Bush administration needs to think out a do-able, yet inspiring set of goals," said Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.), who chairs the House subcommittee that oversees NASA. "We need for the executive branch, as well as the legislative branch, to be trying to reach a consensus on an overall space strategy. We haven't had it for years."

In Crawford, Texas, where Bush is vacationing, reporters on Wednesday asked his spokeswoman, Claire Buchan, about the White House's vision for space exploration. "The president very much believes that space is an important frontier and that the space program should go forward," Buchan said, without elaborating.

But questions of how the program moves forward, and at what cost, are clearly on the table on Capitol Hill, where lawmakers' ideas run the gamut.

Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.),

wants to establish a new advisory panel to oversee how the new report's recommendations are carried out. Sen. Sam Brownback (R-Kan.), who is the chairman of the Senate subcommittee overseeing NASA, wants a presidential commission to develop a national space

Brownback warned that competition from the Chinese, who have announced plans to send humans into space later this year, should prod Americans to return to the sense of purpose in the space program's glory days of the 1960s, when competition from the Russians prodded the United States to put a man on the moon.

And McCain said Congress needed to examine its own conduct, including pork-barrel spending and budget cuts to the agency that may have contributed to the Columbia

In the House, Rep. Nick Lampson (D-Texas), wants to nearly double NASA's annual \$15 billion budget. Yet Rep. Vern Ehlers (R-Mich) says he thinks the space agency may need to scale back.

What I want are facts and ideas for the future," said Ehlers, a physicist, who serves on the oversight sub-

Six Dead After Fired Employee Goes On Rampage in Auto Parts Warehouse

By Jodi Wilgoren

A man with a long but low-level arrest record returned on Wednesday morning to the small auto supply warehouse from which he was fired six months ago, killing six of its nine employees.

The police said that the man, Salvador Tapia, 36, traded gunfire with officers twice outside the South Side warehouse, known as Windy City Core Supply, and again inside its door before being killed by one of their bullets. Two employees narrowly escaped. One who had been tied up by Tapia freed himself and called 911. The company's president, late to work while taking his daughter to school, also survived.

"It appears he went throughout the supply warehouse shooting them they were not all in one place," said Philip Cline, the acting superintendent of the Chicago Police Department, describing the warehouse as a crowded maze of engine

parts, 55-gallon drums, crates and only one way out and one way in other than overhead doors. Once he's inside and by that front door, he's got them cornered."

Though the victims were not identified by the police on Wednesday night, friends said that two brothers who were the other officers of the company, Alan and Howard Weiner, were presumed dead. The police said that Tapia had made threatening phone calls to the company's owners since his dismissal for poor performance, but that no police reports were ever filed.

"These are not mean people, these are nice people," said Richard Glickman, a lawyer who had done some work for the company and had known the Howard Weiner since they were "club brothers" at Senn High School on Chicago's North Side four decades ago. "They didn't have a lot of employees to begin with. I have no idea what happened here. We'll probably never know."

Windy City, whose corporate entity is HAR Investment, started up in 1998, according to government records, and has annual sales of about \$600,000. It buys used auto parts and resells them to whole-

Cline said the incident began shortly after 8:30 a.m., when the police responded to a call of shots fired at the warehouse in Bridgeport, a neighborhood where light industry is surrounded by neat town homes and small apartment buildings, and where two generations of mayors named Daley lived most of their lives. About 30 officers from Chicago's Hostage, Barricade and Terrorist team soon swarmed the scene.

Speaking at an afternoon news conference at police headquarters, which is only about a dozen blocks from the warehouse, Cline said Tapia shot at the officers with a .380-caliber automatic handgun, then retreated into the building, emerged shooting again and disappeared again.

33 Die in Stampede At Hindu Festival in India

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Thirty-three people, including 29 women, died on Wednesday in a stampede at a Hindu festival in western India where tens of thousands of pilgrims attempt to take a bath in the holy waters of the Godavari River in a single day.

Many of the victims were elderly women, witnesses said. At least 74 people were injured.

What caused the stampede was unclear. Some witnesses said a fence had collapsed; government officials said the crowd rushed forward too quickly after a fence was opened. Whatever the cause, the deaths marked one of the worst disasters in the vibrant religious festivals that are a hallmark of India.

"Old women were crying, 'Take me out! Help me!' " Lalji Mistry, a 35-year-old pilgrim, told an Associated Press reporter. "People, even women, were pushing forward. Because of the weight of the crowd, people started falling down."

Uday Giri Mahant, a spokesman for Maharashtra state, said the stampede occurred at around noon when the police opened a fence blocking the main crowd from the river

'The barricades were released to allow devotees to go for holy bath," he said in a telephone interview. "Because the number was overwhelming, some people fell down and died in the stampede.'

Father Sues New York, Claims Police Killed His Son

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The father of a 22-year-old Washington Heights man who died after being pepper-sprayed and restrained by the police is suing the city, claiming that the officers attacked his son, Jose A. Mateo, with-

On the afternoon of June 4, the police received a 911 call from Mateo's girlfriend, who said he had acquired "some type of drug" and was having a "bad reaction."

"He's hallucinating," she said, according to a transcript. "He's getting violent." The police said that when officers arrived at the apartment at 604 West 178th St., the son was assaulting his father.

Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly said the following day that the use of pepper spray was justified. The city's medical examiner listed the cause of death as accidental, occurring "during excited delirium following ingestion of unidentified substance.

But the victim's father, Jose Mateo, 47, said his son was merely complaining, in conversational tones, about an upset stomach when the police burst in and sprayed him.

The medical examiner's autopsy report said Mateo tested negative

The autopsy also cited bruising around the chest and blood in the brain that the family's lawyer, Mark J. Manus, said were the results

Alabama Rock Rolled Away

After two years of controversy, a week of protests that resembled revivals and \$1 million in lawyers' fees, the Ten Commandments standoff was resolved on Wednesday in about an hour, by five men

A moving crew, hired from out of state because no Alabama company would do it, lifted the 5,280-pound Ten Commandments monument installed by Chief Justice Roy Moore of Alabama, slid a wheeled jack underneath and rolled it away

All the speculation about the titanic slab of granite crashing through the floor of the Alabama Supreme Court or being too heavy to budge ended as the moving crew pushed the monument out of public view, as federal courts have demanded.

Dozens of protesters watched, furious and helpless, from behind the locked glass doors of the courthouse.

Many have been camping out on the courthouse steps, wearing their beliefs on their backs, with T-shirts like "Jesus is the Standard" and "Satan is a Nerd." As the workers readied the monument, a preacher belted out, "Pray the wheels crumble!

After they did not, protesters started screaming: "Bring the monument back! Bring the monument back!"

Moore, who was suspended last week for defying a federal court order to remove the monument, was nowhere to be found.

Logan Weapons Confiscations Reach 15,000 in June

A record number of potential weapons - 640,891 - were confiscated last month from passengers trying to board planes at the nation's airports, according to federal officials. But the record at Logan International Airport was set in June, when screeners seized 14,900 potential weapons - the most since federal officials took over security at the airport last year.

In Boston, federal screeners discovered many ordinary items that concealed knives, including lipstick containers, cigarette lighters, belt buckles, pens, even a cane. Yet some passengers were stopped at checkpoints with more obvious contraband, like a 6 1/2-inch bowie knife in a sheath and a straight-edged razor.

"I just think it's ignorance," said George Naccara, the federal security director at Logan for the Transportation Security Administration. He said most passengers claimed they forgot they were carrying the weapons or didn't know the items were banned from carry-on luggage. "There's no malice."

As for the secretive, spy-like items seized, Naccara said most of them were probably bought over the Internet. "I think people are just coming up with some of these creative weapons, artfully concealed, for personal protection ... People still forget that these are prohibited items and they still forget that they've got them on their

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The Terrorism Futures Market Is Immoral

about terrorism in Washington and throughout the media was decidedly business-related. The Defense Advanced Research

Editorial

Projects Agency proposed the creation of Policy Analysis Market, a futures market that would allow anyone, including professional

traders and potential terrorists, to buy and sell futures contracts anonymously based on the likelihood of political or economic events occurring in the Middle East.

In other words, if you are the owner of a contract that reads, "The American embassy in Tel Aviv will be bombed before October 1, 2003," and other people think that will happen and also want to purchase similar contracts, the value of your futures contract will rise.

Though it initially appears that the main purpose of a futures market is to make money on sound predictions, another benefit is that they can often successfully predict the outcome of events better than polls or "expert" opinions. The reasoning behind establishing P.A.M. was that it would serve as an intelligence gathering tool: if several people were buying futures on a potential embassy bombing in Tel Aviv, the security would be heightened there.

Yet P.A.M., the brainchild of John Poindexter, a Reaganera national security adviser who received a conviction (which was later overturned for procedural reasons) for lying to Congress about the Iran-Contra scandal, is no ordinary futures market. First, if it is implemented on a small enough scale, the actions of individuals acting in bad faith (i.e. terrorists) could seriously hamper the ability of the CIA, FBI, or

whoever is monitoring P.A.M. to interpret the data, throwing into question its whole raison d'etre. In other words, a terrorist planning to assassinate a leader in Jerusalem could buy lots of contracts saying he plans to assassinate the leader in Tel Aviv.

But aside from this logistical objection, there is a larger problem with P.A.M., the reason why it was so quickly dismissed by the mainstream media and the public, and why Poindexter was forced to take a second (and hopefully last) disgraceful exit from government. That problem is one of

It is morally repugnant to gain a profit or advantage in life based on the death of a fellow man. Futures markets in which you can buy contracts on the price of vegetables, the chance that it will rain next Saturday, or the chance that the Red Sox will win the pennant before 2050, are all legal forms of gambling that are not based on the life or death of the subject of the contract.

The American government should use every bit of its power to gather intelligence that benefits the safety and protection of the American people, but within reason. Just as our military must decide whether saving the lives of hundreds of people is worth sacrificing the lives of ten people, the intelligence community must consider whether a logistically flawed futures market would help intelligence gathering efforts enough to outweigh its immorality.

To the terrorist futures market, The Tech says a resounding "No," and to Mr. Poindexter, we have only this to add, "And stay out."

The editorial board reached its decision by a 5-3 vote.

Wait, Let's Talk About This

By Ken Nesmith, Andrew C. Thomas, and Jonathan Wang

An interesting thing happened this summer. A government antiterrorism program was discovered and disbanded within the course of a few hours. This wasn't a nefarious spy-

Dissent

on-your-neighbor program, or a plan to distribute lies through the media. This was a creative use of a traditional tool of prediction: a

futures market on terrorism.

We Techies are famous for unorthodox solutions to challenging problems; in fact, you could say that's our trademark. Throw a problem at us, give us a few tools and some creative freedom, and we'll rig something up and make it work. It may not be pretty, and it may be unconventional, but it'll make the plane fly farther and faster, the engine cleaner, the microprocessor more efficient, the house more stable, and the medicine more robust — and aesthetics be damned. That's why some of us were bothered by the rapid, uncritical dismissal of what was really a rather creative approach to predicting global terrorism. In fact, critical analysis of the concept was almost nowhere to be found, in any of the media. All we saw were out-of-hand dismissals and mockery of this unconven-

Though we can't fully explore the workings of the idea in this space, we can examine a few sides of the issue. Futures markets do offer tremendous predictive power, much more effectively than pundits and experts. They are a remarkably effective tool for aggregating information on future events. Very little attention was paid to the predictive power of these markets, which do a better job predicting weather, elections, and stock prices than do celebrity professionals. This market could enable unprecedented prediction of coming terrorist acts, and thereby aid prevention.

Many members of Congress righteously objected that it is wrong to profit on death. They couldn't have thought through that statement too thoroughly. Insurance companies, funeral homes, and tobacco companies profit on death. Somehow, they don't bother anyone too much. More relevant to MIT is the arms industry, which makes a science of death and destruction - and profits quite handsomely off of it. Look into your UROP, your funding, and your professors; you may be "profiting on death" at this very moment. But more importantly, the very purpose of this market is to reduce death and destruction. We think it inexplicable to tolerate more death and destruction rather than let a profitable market reduce the quantity thereof, and even absurd to then claim the moral high ground.

Another common objection was that this market would allow evil-doers to feed bad information into the system, confounding investigative efforts. This idea leads us to absurd conclusions. Quite simply, any increase in information gathering capabilities will create more opportunities to feed bad information into that system. That is, of course, no reason not to seek more information. Futures markets, we know, efficiently and accurately collect and manage information. Let's not forget that we already suffer the effects of the weakness of information collection via conventional means, as was the case in Afghanistan when bin Laden left recordings of himself broadcasting from caves, fooling commanders into assuming him present. We have also seen the effect of bad information management in the case of Sept. 11. We've seen the conventional system. It may be time to try a new tool.

It's hard to make too strong a case against the futures market, but more troublesome is that no one tried. Reactionism won the day; political palatability triumphed over even the notion of reason — in the media, the political world, and among the American people. This is unfortunate.

Please see Letter To The Editor on page 5.

Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, opinion editors, a photography editor, and an arts editor.

Dissents are the opinions of signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of The Tech, and will not be returned. The Tech makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

The Tech's Ombudsman, reachable by e-mail at ombudsman@the-tech.mit.edu, serves as the liaison between The Tech and its readers. From time to time, the Ombudsman writes an independent column reflecting the complaints, questions, and concerns of the readership.

To Reach Us

The Tech's telephone number is (617) 253-1541. E-mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about errors that call for correction to news@the-tech.mit.edu. Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at http://the-tech.mit.edu.

Everything Depends

Remember: despite what the

Office of Minority Education

thinks, Asians are oppressed

minorities.

Philip Burrowes

The problem with telling people not to generalize is that, well, you're generalizing. You may very well find that some generalizations fit (e.g. all MIT students have excelled in previous schooling) although seemingly similar ones don't (e.g. all MIT students have excelled at prior science). Instead of telling you to eschew all stereotypes as you acclimate to the Institute, this article will better enable you discriminate between the precise prejudices and the merely accurate ones. Such is journalism.

First off, there's the misconception that MIT is an engineering school and thus devoid of anything artsy or emotional. This is wrong on two fronts. Many students, faculty, and administrators are either dedicated entirely to the arts or dabble in it on the side, a fact perhaps most evident in the array of a cappela groups on campus. All this is not to suggest that they are very good in their pursuits, a fact perhaps most evident in the comedy troupes on campus.

Secondly, the School of Engineering is but one of six here, and while some other schools arguably produce engineers as well (such as the

School of Architecture and Planning), any attempt to consider, say, members of the Sloan School of Management "engineers" would be a semantic stretch. Furthermore, as these "Sloanies" have grown in number and post-graduation salary over the years, their

peers in other departments have come to disparage them out of nothing but jealousy. Management is decried as fluff and the Sloan school perceived as not really part of MIT; even their classes are seemingly sequestered on the far east end of campus. In actuality, a Sloanie's core curriculum consists of extensive number crunching, with classes required from the econ, math, and EECS departments.

Now comparative media studies, that's a fluffy major. Having evolved out of a film studies program, CMS classes involve a lot of cartoon watching, web surfing, and music listening under the pretense of academic critique. In a way it's sort of like going to Harvard.

While Harvard jokes are good for a laugh, Boston University jokes are just elitist and cruel. Many capable individuals attend BU, thanks to their generous scholarships and faux-NYU location. The same holds for BC if you substitute "Catholicism" for "faux-NYU."
Undergrads from either can go on to MIT grad school, so the D-I jock you mock today may be your TA tomorrow. Jokes about Tufts are fine, especially involving Larry Bacow.*

Although not quite neighboring students, time-honored tradition and free busing make Wellesley students a frequent target for blanket statements — nudge nudge — as well. Put quite bluntly: Wellesley women are not sluts and should not be treated as such. They only come to MIT to have good time because, well, have you ever tried to have fun around Wellesley? It's like playing Sims Online. McCormick women, however, are indeed frigid.

Dormitory stereotypes should stop there. The Fantastic Four Freak Dorms (Senior Haus, East Campus, Bexley, Random Hall) would have you believe they are weird, eccentric, and all in all a marked contrast to the "West Campus" dorms. Actually, at MIT there are weirdos and well-adjusted folks all over.

Some dorms — and their components — just like to make a bigger deal about their supposed oddity than others. If there is any difference of note between the FFFD and West Cam-

pus, it's that the FFFD seem to have fewer residents of Asian descent than they statistically should. Remember: despite what the Office of Minority Education thinks, Asians are oppressed minorities.

You may be asking: What of the Fraternities? Then people will

turn around and look at you, wondering why you're talking to a newspaper. They're so far off campus, you might as well be asking about the Cambridge-MIT Institute, or Next House. Why bother when MIT campus itself is so interesting? Some may say it's not much of a campus, but it has its choice spots. From the aesthetically pleasing, but acoustically counterintuitive Barker Library, down to the massive lobbies within Technology Square, the insides of buildings have many a sight to behold. Judging buildings by their covers just gets you in a crowded quad-turned-quint in Baker, while those that braved Bexley get their own kitchen.** One glaring exception is William H. Gates Building; the name alone should have told us it was going to suck.

*Google him.

**No, it's true; Bexley has the best rooms on campus. Don't you feel stupid now?

Rehashing Eminem

I'm not ready just yet to file

Eminem next to All Quiet on

the Western Front in the annals

of great and graphic art.

Ken Nesmith

It used to be cool to talk about Eminem. I'm not so sure it's still cool, but whatever; let's talk about Eminem. The big issue, back in the day, was that artsy liberal critics were hailing Eminem's vicious, profane work as creative genius. Eminem and his flock of intelligentsia admirers upset plenty of people, who angrily cited his gay bashing, mother-raping, etc. lyrics as intolerably hateful.

It's difficult to assess Eminem's artistic

worth by the quantity of profanity he employs, just as one can't really denounce all films and literature with graphic violence as hackworks. However, I'm not ready just yet to file Eminem next to "All Quiet on the Western Front" in the annals of great and graphic art.

Although I can't claim comprehensive knowledge of his work, a few of his songs stand out sufficiently to warrant more respect than your everyday hater.

Eminem has been able to sustain an impressively coherent commentary on his work within his own rap. His metamusic has tracked his own journey at every stage and shown listeners the world his work has delivered him. In his songs, he considers his relationship with fans, family, critics, social mores, and addresses other aspects of the interaction between society, art, and entertainment. He takes a great risk and succeeds where so many fail to continually stay more or less above it all, yet completely engaged and present in his art.

In "Lose Yourself," from the Eight Mile soundtrack, Eminem contextualizes his music and work, as a vicious test, a life or death challenge to create or perish. He tells the story (more or less his own) of an individual who faces the worst obstacles and hardships but fights through them, drawing upon tremendous conviction, energy, and skill, overcoming insecurity and uncertainty to find explosive success. The character's ability finds drive in rage and thrives in the face of battle. The confrontation does not feel trite or narrow — his character addresses the very demands of life, effort and success in the face of challenge, and calls upon

the deepest wells of creative and expressive power within himself to win a victory. His words indeed perform a task that literature and art should: they portray and share an experience, gracefully relaying strong emotion and insight.

In "Sing for the Moment," the song that samples from Aerosmith's song "Dream On" in the hook, Eminem works through several interesting points, and here the weakness of criticizing him purely for portrayal of graphic violence is more visible. He first speaks of a kid in a broken home, the child of divorced and abusive parents, who takes

solace in music, and burns on the creative rage spoken of in "Lose Yourself." This verse is a vivid description of a fractured American family; if it lays any judgment upon that tragedy, it is only that this family has been broken by poor social choices. Those who

resent Eminem would lay blame on him for contributing to the problem. However, in this same song and others, Eminem seeks to counter that tragedy, speaking of the challenge and importance of raising his own child, and notes how far removed his edgy music is from his role as a father.

He goes on to reflect on transformation from streetside nothing to celebrity and the feeling that he is the target of hypocritical persecution, but he focuses especially on the charge that entertainers do this work only to boost sales. Surely it boosts sales, he notes, but it's only a "reflection of self." Ultimately, this work is a creative, energetic response to vicious pain, and those facing the same pain find precious empathy in it, "cry[ing] at night, wishing they'd die 'til they throw on a rap record," and find some peace.

Some of his songs are a bit rougher; I haven't heard most of Eminem's music beyond popular tracks. He spends a good bit of time on self-aggrandizement and pop culture commentary, of which he seems to do a fine job. His lyrics can indeed be rather vile. But his ability to carry these two tracks, an ongoing ironic distance and perspective on his art and simultaneous complete engagement therein, and his extraction of explosive and articulate energy from bitter pain, absolve him of complete scorn. They might even earn him a bit of deserved respect.

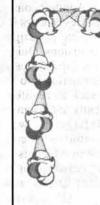
Letter To The Editor The Place Of Journalists

I am writing regarding the August 27 Tech editorial, "Let Journalists Do Their Job In Iraq." This detailed the tragic death of Reuters journalist Mazen Dana, who was fired on by U.S. troops when the shoulder-held camera he was pointing at them from a distance was mistaken for a rocket launcher by the soldiers. Although the story was correct in classifying this death as tragic, it was absurdly off the mark in claiming that "Members and the audience of the press alike should demand that journalists be allowed to work without fear of ambush from soldiers."

The use of the word "ambush" is preposterous, inaccurate, and a disservice to those involved in this tragic accident. Furthermore, while it clearly takes courage to risk one's life in order to report from a war zone, the media are well aware that they are doing just that - risking their own lives. The editorial states that the "world's media outfits are still outraged at what they see as the careless and unnecessary use of weapons in civilian situations, especially when their colleagues are involved." There are no "civilian situations" in Iraq, a fact which should be painfully apparent to anyone not living in a cave who is aware that the majority of military casualties have occurred since major combat operations ceased. Regardless of one's opinion of the U.S. military presence in Iraq, they are there. And whether the media is outraged or not, their job is not nearly as dangerous or critical as that of the

Let the media continue their noble search for "truth and knowledge," and ratings. But stay out of the way, don't wander around "hot" areas unescorted, and let the military do their job in Iraq.

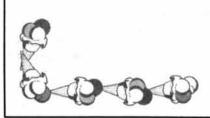
Christopher Hamel G



Interested in *The Tech*?

Come to our booth at the ASA Activities Midway on **Friday, August 29** in the Johnson Athletic Center from 4 to 7 p.m.

Afterwards, we'll be having movies, ice cream, and snacks in our office, Room 483 in the Student Center





F'EATURES

Ask Nutty B

By Nutty B

Nutty B is currently a graduate student at MIT, and this is his first attempt ever at (faking) an advice column. Please e-mail him with whatever question you would like someone to hear out, and help him have an excuse to procrastinate at 3:00 a.m. Please send all questions to askNuttyB@yahoo.com.

Dear Nutty B,

How on earth does a graduate student like you find time to write for The Tech? Shouldn't you be working 24-7 in your lab writing codes for a simulation project or doing some sort of lithography? What inspired you to take up this

—Deeply Concerned

Dear Deeply Concerned,

Honestly, I have no idea why I am writing this column. Perhaps it has something to do with the fact that I accidentally stole a doughnut meant to be given to the homeless a while back and felt I had to help others to redeem myself for my sin.

Or perhaps it's because I have been trashtalking everyday to my friends, and one day I thought why not trash-talk to a larger group of audience?

As for the work in my lab, thank you very much for your concern.

However, that's where the UROP's come in. Whenever you need someone to mop the floor or pour you a cup of coffee, that's when you yelled "Hey, Kids...." Trust me, they do wonders!

To be serious — although I rarely am — I do have a busy schedule, but hearing people whine and complain is definitely more fun than writing a paper. I guess that's why I am

Dear Nutty B,

I am a freshman from Texas. I've heard of the horrible and icy cold winter of Boston. Do I need to buy ski jackets, suitcases of blankets, and a heater for the winter?

-Cowboy

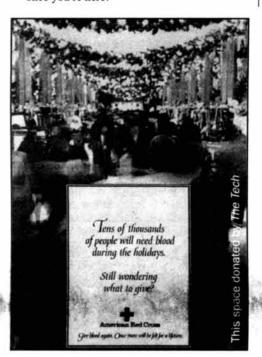
Dear Cowboy,

I may not be the best person to answer this question. You see, I come from the Great White North where people see nothing but white all year round. Being so used to living in the igloos, when they first turned on the heater at my dorm last year, I was afraid that the building would melt.

I think the best solution to your concern would be to catch a bus around October to Newfoundland. I bet a weekend there will make you feel Boston's weather is nothing to worry about, and it will make you "stronger than yesterday."

As such, you should forget about the blankets and heater. But don't throw away the ski gear just yet. I encourage you to buy it and cross-country ski to school on winter mornings (well, perhaps put some automatic hydraulic system on it after you learn how to from your classes).

I guarantee you that not only would you be fulfilling your duty as a nerd but also would you be catching attention from the chicks. Remember, you will have to fit in! Welcome to MIT, the only world you will ever know once you're here!



Hackers Leave Marks in 'Tombs'

Tour, from Page 1

reminiscent of my elementary school days, and it was used during the tour throughout the night.

It turned out that the name of the person who spoke was Jack. Jack Florey, to be exact. It also happened that all the other dozens of black shirted guides who had congregated at the front of the hall went by the same name.

As I looked closer. I saw that most of them were wearing the same shirt with a mocked up Jack Daniel label that instead read "Jack Florey" and "Old No. 5 Roof and Tunnel Hacking."

At fist, every Florey wore an orange jumpsuit to distinguish themselves, hence the name Orange tour, but MIT Police quickly caught on and a new tradition of black was born.

The rules of hacking

Our orientation in 54-100, where we were told rules we had to follow during the tour, lasted over half an hour. I was impressed with the level of organization and obvious consideration for everyone's safety. But while it was amusing hearing what to do if we happened to run into an MIT police officer, I was happy when our group of close to 40 embarked on

Our first stop was the small dome over Building 7. We eventually got there through the tunnel out of building 54, basement of the Infinite, and climbing up and down to different levels at various points along the Infinite until we ascended a particular stairwell to the

Even though it was an overcast night, the Boston skyline reflected brightly across the river, and Mars shone intensely through the gaps in the clouds.

We followed the Jacks up the base of the

waiting for us. Once we got to the curved part of the dome, we were on our own climbing up the curve other than a murmur of advice I heard that "it's easier to climb up on your

I'm not usually scared of heights, but those first few steps up the dome were scary (I opted for the non-butt-first option). It had rained earlier, and I was scared my shoes would slip off the narrow ledges I was holding onto for dear life. Fortunately, though, it got much easier towards the top, and it was well worth it. The view was spectacular, and while we sat there, we were told stories of past MIT hacks by one of the Jacks, including some of the more famous Dome hacks like "the one ring to rule them all" and "Lobby 7 cathedral."

Our next stop was atop one of the four rooftop pyramids flanking Killian Court. It was much easier to climb up, but it was hard to resist the urge to stand up so we wouldn't be spotted. Once on top, we had another great view of Boston, and we were told more hacking stories and Tech stories with topics including Green building speak and I.M. Pei '40.

Our final stop was through the steam tunnels under the Infinite through a bunch of machines and two "tombs."

"Tombs" are what the hacking community call empty unused space they discover in Institute buildings. As we slunk into the first tomb past whirring machines and puddles on the ground, we looked around at the space around us. On the walls were large murals in tribute to the major hacking communities the Jack Florey logo was there next to James Tetazoo III's "Hackito ergo sum," J. Arthur Random's #17 Sailboat, and TEP's logo.

On the ceiling were various signatures,

"There's a difference between hackers and hacking," one Jack said during the tour. Hackers are the ones who pull those wholesome pranks that we hear about, while hacking is just another term for exploring spaces in buildings on campus. Also, "sign-ins" are different from graffiti because they are meant to mark some sort of accomplishment like gaining access into somewhere that is hard to get

Painted on the wall of the last tomb we entered were rules to hacking, which included not destroying property, not stealing, and not hacking alone just to name a few.

Definitely a different view

While I'm glad I went on the tour, I feel as though it would have been much more exciting if I was a freshman and didn't know where I was going.

Also, at one point I felt like the mysterious mood of the tour was broken when one of my companions pointed our her research lab on the way to the steam tunnels. On the plus side, though, I did learn a new entrance into 54-100, which will probably come in handy this winter.

I also realized that I've come to take for granted what a unique and cool place MIT is. Where else do snowmen appear on rooftops in July or people traipse around steam tunnels? It almost brings a tear to my embittered senior

I finally got home close to 4 a.m. after stopping back at East Campus after the tour for some free doughnuts and orange juice. I had to pass on staying longer for more stories and a chance to visit the "bonus location," which I hear is usually the top of the Green building. After three years at MIT, getting to spend more than five hours in my bed is bonus

Hacking Spirit Alive and Well At Freshmen Photo

By Brian Loux

Yufei Wang '04 and Jimmy Cheung '04 aren't bad students. They study, they get good grades, and they were never held back from the class of 2004 because they didn't have enough credits. As such, there's no real reason for them to be in the Class of 2007 freshmen photo. But they are anyway.

In fact, Wang has made it a point to appear in every freshmen class photo since his own.

'My sophomore year I was dragged there," he said. "After that it was mostly the idea of a streak I've been trying to keep." Wang even dressed the part by obtaining a white Class of '07 t-shirt. Cheung paired with his pal Wang this year after not making his freshman photo back in 2000. "I overslept that day," he said. "I almost missed this time, too. Yufei had to wake me up." Cheung said he was glad to do it at least once.

'Why do it? Why not?" Wang said when asked for his motivation for the act. "It's fun to do and an interesting way to get to know the freshmen ... It's a cute hack and there's no harm done. Every year I get to tell freshmen I'm a freshman. And they believe me.'

Wang and Cheung are hardly alone in their act or their mentality. The MIT student population has for years embraced "hacks," or random non-violent acts of lampooning and mischievousness executed mainly because they are possible to do, in one form or another. While there are those who plan elaborate and widely-seen hacks that can attract a small amount of national media attention, many students often try to incorporate the philosophy of hacking into daily activities.

Wang and Cheung, for example, said that they used to go to the top of Simmons Hall while it was under construction for the challenge and the view.

Rocket hack displays MIT brain

Other acts of playful hacking were plentiful at this year's freshmen photo.

At around 2:10 p.m., while the cameraman was still hoping to get everyone situated for the picture, a carbon dioxide-powered bottle rocket was launched from somewhere atop building 10 towards the Charles River.

Instead of releasing a parachute when began its descent, a large number of small orange flyers spewed forth from the rocket, caught the breeze blowing towards the great



Jimmy Cheung '04 and Yufel Wang '04 - not freshmen - have been in several of the annual freshman photographs.

of the photographers ladder.

Many students broke rank to pick up some flyers, delaying the picture a few more minutes. The flyer had the familiar phrenologist

head diagram with the parts of the brain relabeled to things such as 6.001, punt, and Strong Bad. Underneath, the caption read "All your brain are belong to us," while the back enigmatically read, "Who did this."

Freshmen appear in photo twice

In another tradition, many of the freshmen (or upperclassmen) attempted to run from the left side of the group to the right side before the panoramic photo lens reached the opposite

A group of around 20 freshmen ran this year, some making it, some not, and some knocking over Coke cans and cigarette receptacles in the process.

Naveen M. Krishnan '07 and Faizan Ahmed '07 decided on attempting to run a few minutes before the picture was taken. Ahmed took it one step further and dressed in Spiderman outfit complete with a mask.

"I always dressed up as things in high school," said Ahmed, a Spiderman fan. "I

dome, and fluttered down around the vicinity wore this to the movie premiere. I got a standing ovation out of it

Like Wang and Cheung, the two freshmen didn't have a real reason for participating. "I remember my father regale me with tales of never having the opportunity to appear in his freshmen photo twice," Ahmed said, with Krishnan nodding in sympathetic understanding. "He often wakes up at night with a cold sweat on his forehead wishing that he appeared in the picture more than once ... I had to do it for him."

"We're kidding, obviously," Krishnan said. "We're just the Indian rebels of MIT."

Ahmed and Krishnan were not in the front of the running pack, however, so their double appearance in the picture is not certain. Krishnan estimates that he was too slow on the run to appear in the picture. Ahmed said that while he botched the first two pictures, he had a fighting chance in the third.

"I don't know, I might be a big blur," he

Failure didn't faze the two, however. Krishin even said that he hoped to do more stants like this in the future, though possibly on a larger scale. "I definitely want to do [the picture] again next year," he said.

Ask SIPB

Ever wondered how secure your files on Athena are, or exactly what Kerberos and AFS actually are? Or perhaps you would like to be more practical, and want to know how to easily share files with other users? In our final introductory orientation column, we discuss two related, but more advanced topics: Kerberos, and AFS.

Question: What is Kerberos?

Answer: Kerberos is a network authentication system developed at MIT. It allows users to prove their identities to servers, and in the process, also verifies the identities of these servers to the user, ensuring that they are not passing information to the wrong computer.

The Kerberos protocol allows this to happen even while passing information over insecure pathways. Your password is never actually sent across the network, for example. Furthermore, even if your packets are intercepted, those packets still cannot be used to impersonate you.

Question: What is AFS?

Answer: AFS, the Andrew File System, was developed at

Carnegie Mellon University. Unlike other file systems, AFS is a distributed file system, storing data on many different file servers. Each server contains many volumes, which are units of space. Each volume has its own default Access Control List and quota. This provides AFS with many advantages over other file systems, in that it is more flexible and allows transparent moving of volumes between servers for load balancing, and replication of read-only data to allow users to continue to access it if a server fails or a portion of the network becomes unreachable.

At MIT, Kerberos is used to authenticate users to AFS, ensuring the security of your data. This, in conjunction with AFS's flexible permissions, provides great power to users. Almost all Athena lockers are located in AFS, including your home directory. This allows you to easily maintain the permissions on files and directories, enabling and disabling access to various users of your choice.

Question: How can I use my Public and www directories? Answer: By default, your Athena account has two directories, the Public and www directories, pre-configured to share files with other people.

The www directory is primarily intended to be used as a webpage. Anything you put in that directory is publicly acces-

sible, and can be accessed with the URLs http://web.mit.edu/username/www/ and http://www.mit.edu/~username/.

The Public directory is primarily intended to be used to share files through Athena. Anything you put in that directory is also publicly accessible. To get to someone's Public directo-

athena%cd ~username/Public

If for some reason your Public or www directories are missing or misconfigured, you can restore them by doing the following:

athena% cd

Orientation Ask

SIPB Columns

Resources

Sunday: Connecting to the

Network

Wednesday: Zephyr

Friday: Computing Help and

Monday: Using Athena and Unix

Tuesday: Mail and Mailing Lists

Today: Kerberos and AFS

athena% mkdir Public

athena% mkdir www

athena% fs setacl -dir Public -acl system:anyuser rl

setacl athena% fs system:anyuser rl

Question: How can I look at and set ACLs in AFS?

Answer: An ACL allows you to grant or deny users vari-

ous read, write, and administrator permissions to various directories, such as your home directory. To look at the ACL for an AFS directory:

athena% fs listacl direc-

If you simply wish to find out the ACL for the current directory, you may omit directoryname

When looking at an ACL, you will find up to seven letters after each entry. These are:

r: read (allows users to read files)

1: list (allows users to list files)

i: insert (allows users to add new

d: delete (allows users to delete files)

w: write (allows users to write to files)

k: lock (allows users to lock files)

a: administer (allows users to administer the ACL of the

Looking at a sample ACL: Access list for . is

system:anyuser 1

system:samplegroup rl

sampleuser rlidwka

This indicates that system: anyuser, a special group that basically includes the entire Internet, can see a list of the files in your home directory, but not read them. This is required because in order to access a subdirectory, one needs to be able to see the list of the contents of its parent directory. This also indicates that system: samplegroup, the people on the Athena list samplegroup, have full read permissions, and the user sampleuser has full permissions, including setting the permissions of other users or

Setting an ACL is similar to listing one. For example:

setacl directoryname athena% fs system:samplegroup rlidwka

This gives all seven permissions to the samplegroup group for directoryname, though does not refer to subdirectories of that directory.

For convenience, you can use read in place of rl, write in place of rlidwk, and all in place of rlidwka when setting ACLs, if you wish. You may also abbreviate listacl as la, and setacl as sa.

Question: How can I allow a group of people access to part of my home directory?

Answer: To allow a group of people access to part of your homedirectory, useful, for example, in group projects, or to share files with other users, you can do the following:

For a small number of people, you can individually grant them access by typing:

athena% fs setacl dirname username permissions

for each person you want to grant access to the directory.

For a larger number of people, you can use an Athena managed list, also known as a moira list to control access. To do this, first check and see if the list is an AFS group. To do

this, type at the athena prompt: athena% blanche listname -i

The output should have a line like the following:

asksipb is a maillist and is a group with GID 45072

If it doesn't have a line indicating that it is a group, you can make it a group, by typing:

athena% blanche listname -G

After it is made into a group, you can grant it access to a particular directory in the manner mentioned before, replacing system: samplegroup with system: listname.

One thing to note is that if the mailing list is a mailman list, then it cannot be made an AFS group. The proper solution would be to ask for a new moira list by going to http://web.mit.edu/accounts and going the "Request a new

To ask us a question, send e-mail to sipb@mit.edu. We'll try to answer you quickly, and we might address your question in our next column. Copies of each column and pointers to additional information will be posted on our website: http://www.mit.edu/~asksipb/.

Gadget Review Flat Screen TVs

By Kallas Narendan

Flat screen televisions are a costly (starting well over \$1,000), but very cool tech toy for any room. Let's

face it, the days of the big "Boob Tube" are out, and the flat, sleek, modern look is

I found the picture quality to be very good for all digital applications (digital cable, DVD, etc.), but once you introduce an analog signal (such as from an antenna), the old version televisions actually look a bit better. The market Samsung 17-inch LCD monitor (LTN1785W) for Liquid Crystal

Display TVs isn't huge; there are only a few big names that actually make and sell them. I evaluated products from Samsung and Philips in a head-to-head comparison to explore the pluses and minuses of each

Sound

Both TVs have integrated speakers that are nothing to write home about, so I won't. While the sound quality is not bad, you could easily spend about \$80 online on a good pair of computer speakers that will give you a better video experience.

Inputs and Features

The Samsung product beats out Philips when it comes to features and inputs. Philips provides a TV, while Samsung provides a digital display device that can be integrated into your room. In addition to a load of standard TV inputs (Aerial, RCA, S-Video, R/G/B), you get a monitor input, so you can actually use the TV as your computer monitor when you're starved for space (and who isn't in their

dorm room?).

Functionality

I found that the Samsung unit is much easi-

er to configure and operate. The menu browsing and remote control interface is more intuitive and user friendly. The simple fact that a TV can also function as a computer monitor, makes it much more useful piece of equipment. In addition, the picture-inpicture feature is very extensive and flexible, making it convenient to maximize vour media digestion, watching

COURTESY SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS USA

multiple channels or input sources at once. A huge drawback of the Philips TV is the physical design. While the TV looks cool, with its wide, smooth face, the stand is a royal pain. Rather than providing a standard, narrow, base, it has a huge, curving arc. This arc is conveniently too large and awkwardly shaped to fit anything under it (DVD, Cable box, etc.). This is

a huge inconvenience if you are tight on space.

The thing that makes or breaks these highend gadgets for those on a budget is always the price. I evaluated the 20PF-9925 20-inch Flat TV from Philips and found it for as low as \$1,500 on the Internet. I found the 17-inch version of the same TV for as low as \$1100. But wait. You can find a 17-inch widescreen Samsung Tantus for as low as \$950. After taking cost into account, it is clear that the Samsung product is the way to go. You get a lot more features, and don't sacrifice any noticeable quality. If you're in the mood to lighten the wallet and "technify" your room, it is definitely the way to go!

By Harel Williams and Rose Grabowski

UA COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

I need some dough for my campus-wide nudist party. Where can I get it?

We're glad to hear about this party we've always felt there was a lacking nudist presence on campus. There are three big funds you can look into for this type of thing:

Large Event Funding (LEF) is for, well, large events that are sponsored by more than one student organization, have a non-student group as one of the organizers, or have a requested budget of \$3,000-\$10,000. If you don't quite fit those criteria, consider the Weekends@MIT fund, which is for general campus-wide events like yours. The third area we suggest is ARCADE, which supports annual events promoting diversity on campus. If you want your nudist party to become a yearly event, as well it should, ARCADE is a valuable resource for you. And make sure you invite us to this party — we re always up for a good time.

Dear UA.

I think Pius Uzamere is totally hot. No wonder he's President of the UA! I want to find a way to get closer to him, maybe do something in UA so that I can spend late nights in the Student Center and seduce him with my crepes from Arrow Street. What do you suggest I do?

-Stalker Chic You're right, Pius is hot. With such a jolly laugh and jovial spirit, what woman could resist him?! There are a few different ways

you could side-step into Pius's life. One is

that you could get on a UA committee such as committee on student life or committee on housing and orientation, then go with your committee chair to the UA cabinet meetings in W20-400 every other Monday - Pius runs those meetings, and you could easily slip into the room early and grab a seat up front next to him. Or, if you like, you could just show up as a regular concerned student to a UA Senate meeting (alternates Mondays with Cabinet) and voice your concern on issues - Pius will be there listening to your every word. Or, if none of those work, you can simply stalk Pius on Athena like the rest

Dear UA,

Those cute sorority girls hang out in their house all day over in Boston. How do I get across the river during daylight to see my hunnies?

Hate the Game

Good question. The Charles serves many purposes in our lives, but yes, it can become a large obstacle at times for inter-city ron Normally a good way to get across is the #1 bus along Massachusetts Avenue. But this is New England and it gets cold here. Darn cold. So if you're not willing to wait for the #1 every day, there's a new option this year daytime SafeRide. It will run November through March (excluding IAP) on one route around the major FSILG areas in Boston. Until then, the unaffiliated girls are quite hot

Questions? E-mail Got more uaqa@mit.edu with your quizzicality. Want more info on any of the issues raised in this column? Gohttp://web.mit.edu/ua/www/uaqa



Find your nearest link at <http://web.mi t.edu/medlinks /www>

TRIBUTE

Mr. 'Cut the Mullet' Cuts Out Early

A Fan Mourns the Untimely Passing of Offbeat Rocker Wesley Willis

By Brian Loux

FEATURES EDITOR

"Everybody say rock. Everybody say roll. Everybody say rock. Everybody say roll. Everybody say rock. Everybody say roll." Wesley Willis, opening a concert

guy who speaks lines like these scarcely seems worthy of memorializing. But Wesley Willis, who passed away last Thursday after a long-fought bout with chronic myelogenous leukemia,

wouldn't seem like much to a passerby. In some ways, deceitful appearances were part of his art.

(On that note: It's almost fitting that I learned about Willis's death through some of the most adventitious of means: a friend from back home simply sent me an IM saying he heard that someone else heard that the man was dead. A quick Google search confirmed the

Willis was an overweight schizophrenic giant with an exceptionally rough and poor childhood that led Offbeat rocker Wesley Willis, and sauces all together beat raps and rock verses accompanied by his keyboard recorded background beat kept attracting crowds long

enough to rule out a flash-in-the-pan phenom-The Tech has covered him twice, and only once because I begged to do so. The concert at T.T. the Bear's took place less than a month after both September 11th, 2001, and a good friend of mine went into a coma. After hearing him play, interact with the fans, and smile when he knew he had worked the crowd, I honestly felt a lot better about a lot of things.

I had hoped to score a post-concert interview because he took the time to speak for hours after the concert. After I identified myself as press (and going through the ritual headbutt greeting he had made) and rattled off

one stupid question, he turned the tables and began to ask me about Boston. This also made me feel better, even though the interview was a bust.

The easiest thing Wesley could do was make you laugh. The sheer unexpectedness of the form combined with juvenile grammar and phrasing was a potent combination. If not, then there was plan B: Wesley's amazing ability to combine curses, animals, body parts, fest. My favorite is the song about him having sex with a hot girl.

Yes, a lot of the fan base was gimmick and spectacle. The nonsense of many of the song's lyrics and rhythms won over quite a few looking for someone to laugh at. More often than not at his concerts, you would find drunken college kids trying to scream out mimics of Wesley's lyrics and speech in hopes to get a physical or verbal reaction from him. At a concert I went to, a group of Harvard students had brought with them a mini-tape recorder and quickly jammed the microphone into his face once the concert was over and barraged him with questions for a two-year-old, hoping to elicit retarded responses.

But there was more, much more, to Wesley and his music. At points you could even see a message. The song "Make Sure I'm Out Screwing Up" talks about how various people and forces in society work to see that he stays poor and homeless. He threw out corporate sponsorships at the end of his songs to make them recognizably inane and ubiquitous. The song "Northwest Airlines" has a plug for Continental Airlines at the end of the song. Wesley could be a really bad anime series; sometimes you're not quite sure just what he's trying to say, but you know it's supposed to be profound.

But beyond that, a lot of Wesley's music tells the story of his life. There are constant references to the demons in his head, his weight problem, and his poverty. And yet he has persevered through the exceptionally poor hand life had dealt him and tried to solve the problems on his own. Willis was fond of saving that his drawings and music helped him to get rid of those demons. His art also helped him stay financially afloat, and while he never won the battle with obesity, his song "I'm Sorry That I Got Fat (I Will Slim Down)" shows that he was trying. Aside from the gems of wit and wisdom scattered about his lyrics and speeches, Willis stood as an emblem of hope and determina-

Wesley's life ambition was to be a rock star. Perhaps it is fitting that he died young as so many musicians before him. Rock over London, Rock on, Wesley Willis. In programmy

FILM REVIEW ***

Somewhere Closer Than Over the Rainbow

Campy Film Cliched But Soundtrack Worthwhile

By Fred Choi

STAFF WRITER

Written and Directed by Todd Graff Starring Daniel Letterle, Joanna Chilcoat, Robin de Jesus Rated PG-13

amp Ovation, based on a real drama camp in upstate New York, is a haven for adolescents who'd rather be Broadway babies than basketball stars and who idolize Stephen Sondheim instead of Britney Spears. Although Camp's central story feels like just another of its many subplots, it is crammed so full of colorful characters and knockout performances that even if you don't know Audra McDonald from Ronald McDonald you'll still find yourself enjoying the spectacle despite the lack of emotional involvement.

The main story of Camp, such that it is, concerns the cross-dressing Michael (Robin de Jesus), a straight (gasp!) pretty-boy Vlad (Daniel Letterle), and his coterie of summer flings, including the plain but generically nice Ellen (Joanna Chilcoat). Cliched subplots include a bitchy diva and her mousy sidekick; an apathetic, alcoholic director; and a girl

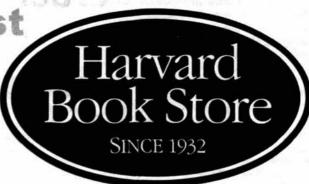
rog no com , bemoch se no w at n Camp, Page 9



him to fluctuate between responsible for the songs "Rock 'N in one line for an insult homelessness and poverty Roll McDonalds," "Cut the Mullet," throughout his life. He had and "Casper, the Homosexual song "I Can't Drive," no traditional musical skill Friendly Ghost" passed away at which is actually just a whatsoever, and yet his off- the age of 40 last Thursday.

professors shop should I bring my parents when they get my course books? see authors reading? Q: Where's meet in Harvard Square? Q: Where my old books for cash or credit How can I save money on books for school? Q: Where can I find the best selection of new used books? Q: Where can I get presents for my friends? Q: What's another option to the Coop/Barnes & Noble? Q: What has the reputation of being the best bookstore in town?

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RESTAURANT REVIEW

The Daddy of Beantown's Bars

Dad's Beantown: Cold Drinks, Warm Food, Hot Bartenders and Waitresses

By Margaret H. Shyr

Dad's Beantown 911 Boylston St., (617) 296-3237 Open for lunch and dinner until 2 a.m.

e discovered Dad's by accident one weekend earlier this summer. We'd already worn-out Whiskey's, Cactus Club, Daisy's, and of course, Crossroads during the school year. For those of you unaware, these are the favorite Bostonside hangouts of many of-age MIT students.

It was time to find someplace new, preferably close enough to Massachusetts Avenue so we could find our way home at 2 a.m. Maybe we were drawn to the retro-silver exterior of Dad's, or maybe it was the sign outside that said "\$3 margaritas and daiquiris." Most likely it was the hot waitresses in Britney Spears-inspired schoolgirl outfits and deadsexy bouncers in white shirts and ties.

That first night we sat on white upholstered couches, sang along to '80s rock, and spent probably under \$20 apiece to get reasonably ... comfortable.

Sometime later that week, a friend and I went back to have an after-work drink. The bar takes on a different character during lunch and dinner hours: the tables are covered with white cloths, illuminated with candles, and set with silverware and napkins. A waitress (yes, boys, she was dressed like Britney) handed us a menu and suggested that we order the \$7 pizza. Just so we didn't look like major drunks too early in the day, we ordered an artichoke-topped pizza to go with our margar-

When our order arrived, it was definitely not the ketchup-covered cardboard from Crossroads — the pizza was fresh, hot, and loaded with cheese and artichokes. It was actually too big for us to finish that night. In addition to the pizza, Dad's also offers a \$2 taco plate on some days which, according to my sister, the taco connoisseur, is "GOOOOOD." I'll say that the tacos come loaded, the meat is well-seasoned, and you get two vats of rice and beans. The wings (\$3 for a dozen) were hot (temperature-wise and seasoning-wise) and crispy.

Whether you're at the bar in the front, the one in the back, or the one in the basement that's three bars, kids, which means there's never a long wait for drinks - the bartenders are very fun.

As far as the drinks go, definitely get your margarita frozen and flavored (strawberry and mango). And by the way, Dad's is generous with the tequila. If you want the real drink bargain, it's definitely the \$5 pint glass (16 oz.) full of blue margarita (frozen or on the rocks). As someone put it, "It's like tequila dyed blue!" The shots are chilled and on the large side, unless of course you're drinking out of the bottle and spinning around in the chair in the basement. You'll have to go there to find out what I'm talking about.

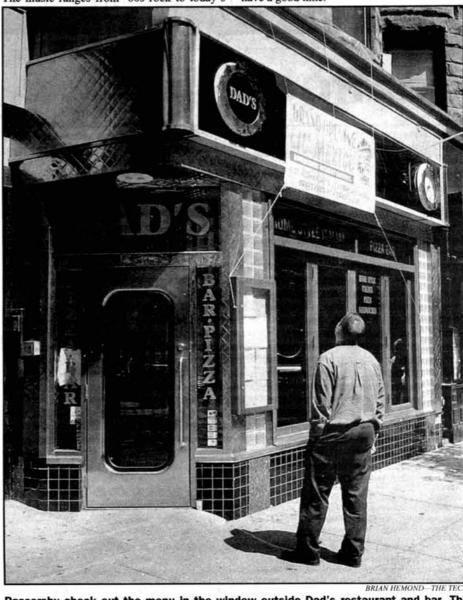
The basement is in the process of becoming a new section of the restaurant called "Lil" Mexico." It will be open by now and you should definitely check it out. The menu features nachos, tacos, fajitas, burritos, enchiladas, and more - all for under \$8 (most of the items are under \$5). And of course there are the drinks. Judging from the current standard at Dad's, both the new food and drinks will be consistently excellent.

As some of the guys I took there said, "This place is the find of the summer." I suppose it was. Overall, the food and drinks are cheap and enjoyable, which is probably why you'll end up going. But the real appeal of Dad's is the atmosphere. A lot of places around Boston can be intimidating - go try to get carded by the 9 large bouncers dressed in black outside Pravda. Instead, the staff at Dad's is friendly and good-humored.

For example, last weekend, there was a bachelorette party where one girl was dancing on the white chairs with a whip. She took a couple of swipes at some of the very cute guys on staff. They just laughed. Like the waitstaff, the crowd hanging out at Dad's is young, attractive, and energetic - there is eye candy for all. The décor is black-and-white photographs of old movie stars, neon signs, and silver tables. The white "pimp-ass" booths are big enough to fit at least 16 people. The music ranges from '80s rock to today's

pop and there's some room for movin'.

Dad's is part restaurant, part bar, and all fun. I spent my last night in Boston at Dad's and have probably brought everyone I know there at some point. This summer, it was definitely the place to have a \$5 dollar glass of blue margarita, sit around with all of my friends, make some new friends, watch new friends pick up old friends, and genuinely have a good time.



Passersby check out the menu in the window outside Dad's restaurant and bar. The cuisine includes a variety of Mexican dishes.

me-liners and Decent Acting Mark Drama Camp Film

Camp, from Page 8

whose parents have wired her jaw shut so that she'll lose weight.

Every once in a while, due more to random chance than actual planning, no doubt, the film manages to move in an interesting direction, but then just as quickly slips back into its usual after-school television special banality. Scenes such as the conversation in which Vlad asks why Michael wore a dress to his prom suggest opportunities for character development, but wind up at a dead end.

The entire ensemble of newcomers act passably well in their paper-thin roles, but the movie is at its best in its occasional snappy one-liners (Vlad: "Have you ever experimented with heterosexuality?" Michael: "What? Sleep with a straight guy?") and its fantastic, oftentimes absurdly precocious musical numbers. The latter make up the real reason you should see this film. There's something uniquely moving - not to mention wonderfully funny - about a 15-year-old girl masterfully translating the bitterness of youth into the role of a thrice-divorced world-weary woman or of a freckled, rosy-cheeked white girl donning a black beehive wig to channel the spirit of Jennifer Holiday. It's too bad the rest of the film is marred by amateurish attempts at dialogue and a storyline.

Like the movie itself, the soundtrack to Camp is a curious mix, but it ends up succeeding much more successfully. The first half includes full versions of songs performed in the movie (the hilarious song from Dreamgirls is, however, unfortunately absent). The scenes enacted by the teens at the camp are

generally from unfamiliar shows that feature more popular-based music, perhaps in deference to teenagers and the average audience members' preference for the likes of Elton John and Rent, rather than My Fair Lady or Oklahoma!

The songs penned specifically for the movie or drawn from other sources have a similar feel, drawing from folk and gospel. It was a supremely wasted opportunity that the talents of the virtuosic Stephen Trask, the songwriter of the memorable tunes from Hedwig and the Angry Inch, were kept only to the instrumental score, none of which was included on the soundtrack. Still, the new songs, while saccharine, shallow, and at times incoherent in their meandering, are generally pleasing.

The second half of the soundtrack includes songs from such popular acts as The Replacements and Oasis as well as more obscure bands like Snow Patrol, which were used as background music during the movie. Viewers of the movie would be hard-pressed to recall which song went with which scene, and diehard musical fans may turn their noses up at these tracks. But as the character Vlad points out, there's more to music than just music written twenty-plus years ago, and for those willing to be open-minded, these songs fit surprisingly well with the tone of the songs performed by the cast: acoustic, summery pop.

For those who prefer belting to hiking, the soundtrack of Camp captures the energy and fun of the movie's look at an adolescent summer which should tide you over until you can watch the DVD, fast-forward button at the ready so you can skip to the good stuff - the

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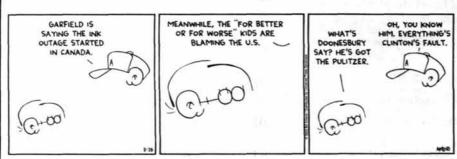
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Events Calendar appears in each issue of The Tech and features events for members of the MIT community. The Tech makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and The Tech shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the Events Calendar web page.

Events Calendar

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at http://events.mit.edu

Thursday, August 28

7:00 a.m. - Class of 2007 Undergraduate Orientation. You are about to embark on what may be the most interesting, challenging, and entertaining years of your lives-your undergraduate career at MIT. For some of you, it may be your first time away from home, so you may be apprehensive about the change. For others, you may be exploring yet another new frontier. Regardless of your thoughts about heading off to MIT, you will all have opportunities to explore your options, seek out new challenges, tackle new problems, research possibilities, and meet new people. Your first order of business-exploring Orientation 2003! Room: Check Orientation 2003 web site for details. Sponsor. Academic Resource Center.

7:00 a.m. - Graduate Student Orientation. New students, welcome to MIT! The Graduate Student Council runs a large number of programs to help new students at MIT. From the minute new students arrive in Boston, the GSC is involved by offering a shuttle service that brings them from the airport to MIT campus. We run and plan the Institute's official graduate student Orientation a mentorship program to help new international students. If you are a new student we highly encourage you to explore all of the information on these webpages, and we hope the GSC can help make your first year experience at MIT as enjoyable as possible! Check Web Site for Details, Sponsor: Graduate Student Council,

9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. - Course Catalogue Distribution. Bring your MIT ID and pick up a copy of the 2003-2004 course catalogue. Free. Room: 56-191. Sponsor: Reference Publications Office.

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. - BrioQuery 6: HR Queries Quick Start. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - EHS Training — Round Three. Free. Room: N42-253. Sponsor: Usability at MIT.
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. - Information Booth. Info Booth is organized by the Graduate Student Council (GSC) with volunteers who can answer questions about getting settled at MIT. Brochures from offices within MIT and various hot spots in the sur available. Maps of MIT and up-to-date listings of orientation events will also be provided. Pick up or purchase tickets for various Graduate Welcome Events. Free. Room: Lobby 10. Sponsor: GSC Orientation.

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - All About UROP Info, Session, Learn about MIT's Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program. UROP staff will present followed by a question and answer session. Free. Room: 54-100. Sponsor: UROP.

10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. - Admissions Office Information Session. Admissions Office Information Session is held in Building 1, first floor, in Room 1-190. This is a special location for this date and time only! Enter MIT at the main entrance, 77 Massach building with tall pillars). Take a right and proceed past the Information Center (Room 7-121) and follow this corridor all the way until you can go no further. You will pass by rooms marked with a "5" which is Building 5. After passing through Building 5 you will enter Building 1. Follow this corridor which goes straight and then left all the way to the very end and you will come upon Room 1-190. Free, Room, Room 1-190 (First Floor). Sponsor: Information Center

10:45 a.m. - Campus Tour. Student-led campus tours are approximately 90 minutes long and provide a general overview of the main campus. Please note that campus tours do not visit laboratories, living groups or buildings under construction. Groups over 15 people need to make special reservations. Campus tours start at the conclusion of the Admissions Informations Session. The Campus Tour begins in Building 1, Room 190. Free. Room: Room 190. Sponsor: Information Center.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - MIT New Online Stationery Ordering Demo and Graphic Identity Introduction. In the first part of this Quick Start, you will learn how to use the new ECAT stationery ordering system to order official MIT business cards, letterhead and envelopes. With a few easy clicks, you can input your office information, view proofs, and submit your order. In part two, learn about resources available to support use of MIT's new logo in official publications. You will learn guidelines for use and review the online style guide, which includes downloads of various file formats and templates. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information System

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Graduate Family Picnic. A chance to meet the Spouses & Partners community at MIT. Free. Room: MIT Chapel Lawn, Sponsor: spouses&partners@mit, GSC Orientation

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Graduate Welcome Address. The graduate student welcome event with a speech by the MIT president Dr. Charles Vest, and the Keynote Speaker, Dr. Dava Newman, to give you insights into your long-term professional goals. Free. Room: Kresge Auditorium. Sponsor: GSC Orientation

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Queer Women's Lunch. Queer Women's Lunch (For Women's Lunch) en Only Please) Lesbian, bisexual, transger dered, questioning, or just plain friendly? Come and enjoy a casual lunch with other queer MIT women. Hang out, have some great food, and meet some friendly new faces. Interested in more information about other lbgt programs, clubs and offerings? Email: lbgt@mit.edu or go to the website: http://web.mit.edu/lbgt/. Room: McCormick Private Dining Room, McCormick Hall. Sponsor: lbgt@mit.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Weight Watchers at Work! Free. Room: Women's Lounge - Room 8-219. Sponsor: Weight Watchers. 1:30 p.m. - 3:90 p.m. - Welcome Lunch. Free lunch is provided after the address, to help students meet each other. Free. Room. Kresge Oval. Sponsor: GSC Orientation.

2:90 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. - Admissions Office Information Session. Admissions Office Information Session is held in Building 6, in Room 6-120. Enter MIT at the main entrance, 77 Massachusetts Ave (domed building with tall pillars). Proceed all the way down the ce corridor to the very end and take a right. Proceed a short distance down this next corridor and room 6-120 will be on the right. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Information Center

2:45 p.m. - Campus Tour, Room: 6-120, Sponsor: Information Center.

3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Boston Trolley Tours. Take this opportunity to get a professional trolley tour of Boston, and learn interesting facts about your new home. \$5/\$10. Room: Depart Kresge Oval. Sponsor: GSC Orientation.

6:03 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Weekly meetings. Regular meeting of the core group at muddy charles. Free. Room: Muddy Charles. Sponsor. Techlink.

6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Boston Investors Technical Analysis Fasttrack Group. Meeting of the Boston Investors Technical Analysis Fasttrack Group. Free. Room: E52-175. Sponsor: MIT User Groups.

6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - TechLink Welcome Dinner Party. Networking dinner hosted by the TechLink club, to help new grad students meet each other. Free. Room: Morss Hall, Walker Memorial Building. Sponsor: Techlink, GSC Orientation.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Graduate Christian Fellowship Bible Study. Come join us for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship! We are currently studying the book of Ephesians. Free. Room: W11-080. Sponsor: Graduate Christian Fellowship, GSC Funding Board.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Sidney-Pacific Ice Cream Social. Free. Room: Multipurpose Room 1. Sponsor: Graduate Christian Fellow-

9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Coffee Hour. Food and drink - an Ashdown tradition. Free. Room: Hulsizer Room (W1). Sponsor: Ashdown

10:00 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. - Movie Night. Movie and food - free for all!! Free. Room: Big TV Room (W1). Sponsor: Ashdown House. 11:59 p.m. - Campus Disc Golf. Do you like tossing a disc? Do you enjoy friendly competition? Or if you're just up for midnight antics, then come on out! Meet outside the Student Center on the front steps, and don't forget to bring a disc! Don't hesitate to come, newcomers are always welcomed - We meet every Thursday at midnight. Questions? Contact Daniel Turek, macgiver@mit.edu. Bring your own disc!. Room: Student Center steps. Sponsor: Campus Disc Golf.

Friday, August 29

7:00 a.m. - Class of 2007 Undergraduate Orientation, Check Orientation 2003 Web site for details. Sponsor: Academic Resource Center

Graduate Student Orientation. Check Web site for details. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council.

8:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. - TA Orientation Workshop. Hosted by departments, to train the students with TA appointments. Please contact your departments with questions. Free. Room: 1-190. Sponsor: GSC Orientation.

9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. - course catalogue distribution. Bring your MIT ID and pick up a copy of the 2003-2004 course catalogue Free. Room: 56-191. Sponsor: Reference Publications Office.

10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. - Admissions Office Information Session. Free. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Information Center.

10:45 a.m. - Campus Tour. Free. Room: Room 6-120. Sponsor: Information Center

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Writers Group. New writers are invited to join our weekly Writers Group (sponsored by the Writing and munication Center). Share a piece of your writing with other interested and supportive writers. Open to all MIT students, staff, faculty, uses. Free. Room: 14N-417. Sponsor: Writing and Communication Center.

12:10 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - GABLES Lunch. GABLES is the M.I.T. lbgt staff & faculty group. The lunch is an opportunity for us to gather in a social environment to meet and greet one another. It is also a venue for us to talk about issues of interest to the M.I.T. and larger communities. Our colleagues from the wider community are invited to join us. Free! Room: Various. Sponsor: GABLES.

1:10 p.m. - 1:50 p.m. - Muslim Friday Prayer. Weekly congregational prayer for Muslims. People of other faiths welcome to attend.

E-mail msa-ec@mit.edu for more information. Free. Room: W11-110. Sponsor: Muslim Students' Associa

1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. - Wellness & Crime Prevention. Information and tips about being safe in the Boston area, and who to contact in case of different emergencies. Free. Room: Kresge Oval. Sponsor: GSC Orientation. MIT Medical.

2:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. - Admissions Office Information Session. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Information Center.

2:45 p.m. - Campus Tour. Free. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Information Center. 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Activities Midway. Meet representative from the various student clubs. Free. Room: Johnson Athletics Cen-

ter. Sponsor: Association of Student Activities, GSC Orientation 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Student/Faculty Meet 'n Greet. Opportunity to meet the faculty of the Nuclear Engineering Department

Food provided. Free. Room: 24-213, Sponsor: American Nuclear Society, Graduate Student Council.

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - DUSP Orientation Picnic and Cookout. Welcoming incoming and returning students. Free. Room: Sidney and Pacific Graduate Dorm, Multi-Purpose Room. Sponsor: DUSP Student Council, GSC Funding Board.
7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - MIT CSSA New Student Welcome Event. Free. Room: 5-233. Sponsor: Chinese Student and Scholar

Association, Graduate Student Council, MIT CSSA. 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Bible Study. Is there more to life than grad school? We believe the answer is "YES!." Come study the word of

God with us. There will be dinner provided and games afterward. Free. Room: 3-343. Sponsor: Asian Baptist Student Koinonia Graduate Division, GSC Funding Board. 8:00 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. - MIT Anime Club: Orientation Showing. Summer is over, and it is time to start the school year with a bang.

Come on by as we kick off our new year. Free. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Anime Club, MIT. 8:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. - Sangam Movies. Screening of popular movies. Please subscribe to sangam-request@mit.edu. Free. Sponsor.

Graduate Student Council, Sanga

8:00 p.m. - The Matrix. Take the red pill. See The Matrix in 35mm, kicking off the fall movie lineup on MIT's own big screen. This is a FREE showing, sponsored by the Student Activities Office. Freshmen will receive preferred admission. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC, Student Life Progra

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - Green Hall Movie Night. One of the following movies will be shown: Finding Nemo or Strictly Ballroom Free. Room: Green Hall (basement kitchen). Sponsor: Green Hall, GSC Activities.

8:00 p.m. - "Into the Woods." Stephen Sondheim's musical. (2:00 p.m. matinee on Aug 31). \$9, \$8 MIT community/other students/seniors, \$6 MIT/Wellesley students, \$3 new MIT students; group rates available in advance. Room: Kresge Little theater, Sponsor, Musical Theatre Guild, MIT.

8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. - Good Kurds, Bad Kurds? (2000, 72 min) The documentary reflected nearly a decade of McKiernan's loyal work. It gives the main facts about the position of Kurds in Turkey and themajor events of the last decade. Free. Room: 4-231. Sponsor. MIT Social Justice Cooperative.

9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. - Pirates of Ashdown Party. Dance Party at the Ashdown House. Free. Room: Ashdown House. Sponsor: Ashdown House, GSC Orientation

4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Thistle issue distribution. An August/September issue of the Thistle will be coming out. It will be distributed at the Activities Midway and on campus newspaper distribution locations, including along the Infinite Corridor. Free. Room: Johnson Athletic Center. Sponsor: The Thistle, GSC Funding Board.

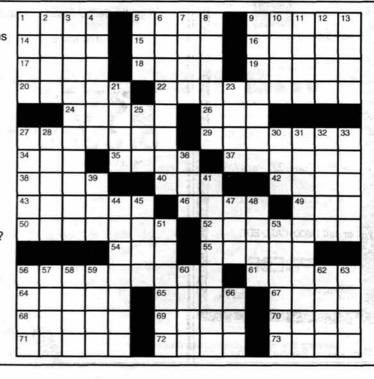
Crossword Puzz

- **ACROSS** 1 Enemy of the Allies 5 On vacation 9 Brilliance
- 14 Breach of secrecy 15 Kilauea flow
- 16 Bakery lure _Karenina" 18 Strait-laced
- 19 Lube again 20 U.S.-Mex.-Can.
- union 22 Three-time U.S.
- Open winner 24 Admit 26 Coal scuttle
- 27 Visual blight 29 Awakening
- 34 Zombie ingredient 35 Punch 37 Electrical unit 38 Tamiroff of "Topkapi"

- 40 Get 'em, Fido! 42 FDR's mother 43 Musical piece
- 46 Parking meter site 49 Cat's wink 50 Anglophile's
- subject 52 Mythic founder of Rome
- 54 AAA advice 55 Pueblo block
- 56 French absurdist playwright 61 Like dunce caps 64 Actor Davis
- 65 Racing pace Domini 68 Lacks 69 Taj Mahal city
- 70 Matador foe 71 Dark times, informally
- 72 Missing 73 Clipped-off piece

- DOWN 1 Actor Alda
- : Warrior Princess" 3 Bond creator 4 Michelle Kwan's
- footwear 5 Mont Blanc, e.g. 6 Caution
- 7 Tel __-Jaffa 8 Piano maker
- 9 Noble's domain 10 Manitoba tribe 11 Diving bird
- 12 In the center of 13 Statuesque 21 All-inclusive
- breadth 23 Director Ephron 25 Choler 27 Obliterate
- 28 Canadian territory 30 FedEx rival 31 Yoko's son

- 32 Chilean pianist 33 Abrupt transitions
- 36 Muscle spasm de mer 41 Museum
- managers 44 Bull's-eyes 45 Room opener?
- 47 Angler's need 48 Coll. hotshot 51 Of teeth
- 53 WWII menace 56 Theme of this
- puzzle 57 Actor Morales 58 Aide to an exec.
- 59 Cloud's number? 60 Cogito __ sum 62 Calvary inscription
- 63 Henhouse 66 Make lace



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wding Remains as Only Half of Transfers Grai

(44 percent), and New House (40 percent). No students requested moves from McCormick, which participates in residence based advising, Chocolate City, or Spanish

MacGregor received the highest number of first choice preferences, followed by Simmons and Baker House

Four dormitories remain crowded

Baker House, East Campus, Burton-Conner, and New House are still crowded, as they have approximately the same number of freshmen as they did before the lottery was run. All of the other dormitories except Senior House are at capacity, Vallay said.

"I had really hoped that crowding would mean that more and more people would enter the lottery," Gray said.

Both Gray and Vallay say that they think crowding will settle down over the next few weeks, as upperclassmen change their housing plans and move into fraternities, sororities and independent living groups.

'People are always cancelling their housing," Vallay said. "Many of the dormitories that are crowded right now will not stay crowded for long."

55 percent of frosh reassigned

Gray said that they ran the lottery using two algorithms, then chose the results that would maximize the number of students they were able to move.

Despite those efforts, only 55

move were reassigned, compared to 60 percent last year.

'With so many people indicating preferences for places like Baker, Simmons, or MacGregor and so many people leaving places like East Campus and Senior House, it's difficult to move anybody," Gray

One of the changes they made to the lottery this year was to add the option of listing a fourth choice dor-

Vallay said that they hoped freshmen would take advantage of all four choices because it would reassigned.

Listing only one preference "really does hurt everybody's chances to move," Gray said.

Listing four choices, Vallay said, represented the most discontent, whereas having one preference gave the message that the students were "reasonably happy where they are now but would maybe be happier living somewhere else."

Only 33 percent of students requesting a move listed four dormitories as choices, though 37.5 percent listed only one preference. One third of the students listing one prefcompared to 83 percent of those listing four preferences.

Vallay said that freshmen who were not reassigned will be added to a list along with upperclassmen, and reassignments will be made as spaces become available.

Freshmen participate in hall rush

After receiving their new dormitory assignments, freshmen began participating in in-dorm rush last night to select their rooms and roommates.

Upperclassmen spent the night explaining the unique personality of

freshmen.

The freshmen "want to know what rooms they'll live in and the style of the floor," said Shuonan Dong '05, who was helping with Burton-Conner in-dorm rush.

The idea is to explore the different sections of the dormitory and "try to get onto a floor where you think you'd enjoy yourself the best," said Petar D. Simich '04, the room assignment chair for Random

"Once they're assigned here they show up to a quick meeting and we split them off" to explore the dormitory in groups, Simich said.

They then "run a good oldfashioned lottery-type deal where they pick a number out of a hat, and that number designates a priority" in choosing a room, he said.

Freshmen in Baker House were treated to a spaghetti dinner and then selected their preferences for room types.

Because freshmen are not allowed to squat their rooms in Burton-Conner, in-dorm rush forces them to explore all of the halls and rank them in order of preference.

"I really wish we could squat our rooms," said Ruth F. Miller '07. "I'm taking [indorm rush] seriously because I'm scared I might not get the room I wanted, so I'm really rushing my second through ninth choices."

Freshmen will be moving out of their temporary housing tomorrow and into their permanent rooms

Housing Lottery Preferences by Dormitory

Dormitory	Number of Freshmen Ranking as First Choice	Percentage Requesting a Transfer		
Baker House	33	6%		
Bexley	6	9%		
Burton-Conner	14	25%		
East Campus	19	44%		
MacGregor	47	10%		
McCormick	(N/A)	(N/A)		
New House	6	40%		
Next House	15	8%		
Random Hall	13	30%		
Senior House	0	66%		
Simmons	34	7%		
Chocolate City	0	0%		
French House	3	50%		
German House	7	10%		
Russian House	0	33%		
Spanish House	3	0%		

Represents all students who requested not to stay in their assigned dormitory. Numbers for McCormick are not applicable as students in residence-based advising cannot enter the lottery. The percentage leaving cultural houses includes students assigned to New House who were placed in empty rooms,

SOURCE: HOUSING OFFICE

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August 22, 2003

Vice President for Information Systems

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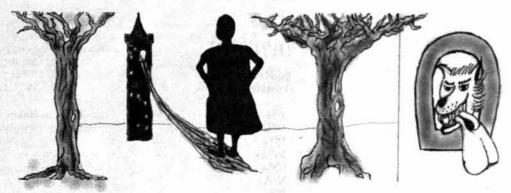
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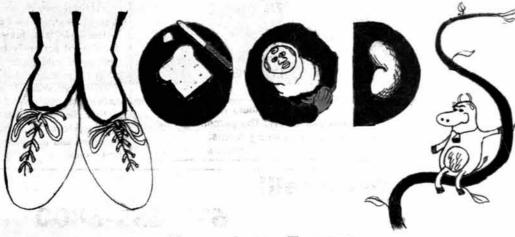
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WGBH Developed Technology

Captions, from Page 1

ty," he said.

LSC has chosen to use rear window captioning, a technology developed by WGBH, a local public television and radio broadcaster. According to WGBH's Web site, "The Rear Window Captioning System displays reversed captions on a light-emitting diode (LED) text display which is mounted in the rear of a theater. Patrons use transparent acrylic panels attached to their seats to reflect the captions so that they appear superimposed on or beneath the movie screen. The reflective panels are portable and adjustable, enabling the caption user to sit anywhere in the theater.'

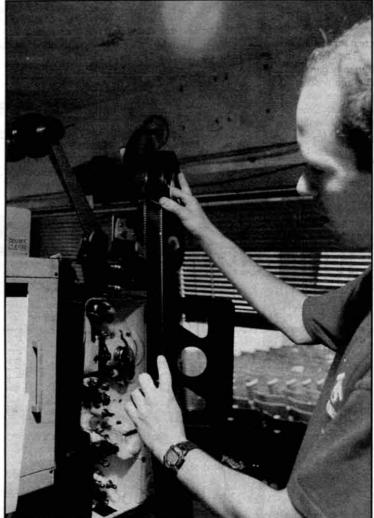
Rear window equipment has been installed in 26-100, where LSC projects most of its movies. According to MIT's SAP financial recording system, the equipment cost over \$10,000. LSC currently has six reflectors which will be provided to moviegoers on request, and will obtain more as demand dictates.

"The reflectors do an excellent job. You can position them wherever you want with respect to the screen," said LSC projection director Erica H. Peterson '02. "Due to the positioning of the [LED display], some places are better to sit than others."

According to Peterson, LSC projection subdirector John A. Hawkinson researched and set up the system.

Peterson said that LSC is considering installing a similar system to accommodate visually impaired moviegoers.

Not all movies shown will have captions. Rolfe said that more popular releases would be more likely to have captions. The showing of



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

Alex Rolfe G displays one of the 35mm movie film reels used by the Lecture Series Committee. Data encoded on the edge of the film allow LSC's new closed-caption system to synchronize itself with the movie.

Matrix Reloaded on Registration day will be the first LSC movie to offer captions.

"I think it's neat," Rolfe said.

"There are a lot of things that LSC does that most college film organizations don't do and this is certainly one of them."

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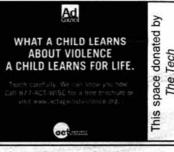
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Solution to Crossword

from page 10

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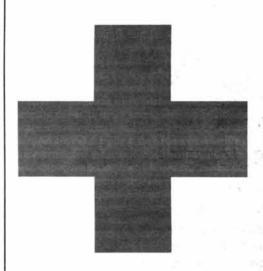
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Further Service Possibilities Dependent on Funding

CityDays, from Page 1

great turnout," Chen said.

The increase in student participation may partially be due to the registration process. "Last year, for the first time, we sent out information about CityDays to every freshman, and they could sign up before they came to MIT," Soucy said.

This year the freshmen were required to check off whether or not they wanted to participate in City-Days as part of an Orientation form,

Although upperclassmen were once the majority of students participating in CityDays, those demographics have shifted since new rules regulating fraternity rush during Orientation were imposed last year, Soucy said. This year, about three-fourths of the participants are freshmen.

In addition, the high "freshmen participation rate ... means we don't have as many slots for upperclassmen," Soucy said. Participation numbers are limited by the number of t-shirts ordered and the number of participating organizations. About 50-60 interested students had to be turned down this year, Chen said. The Public Service Center has been offering to help upperclassmen set up similar community service events for their groups.

Service opportunities may grow

Whether or not the Public Service Center's programs keep growing "depends on our resources because the interest is definitely there," Soucy said. They have also

considered doing CityDays spinoffs, such as one-day events during the year, a multiple-day CityDays, and a CityDays that include not just students, but the entire MIT com-

A major event this year is the Parrot Head Regatta, a benefit for the disabled sponsored by Easter Seals. Volunteers will help staff the event, at which participants who raised the \$250 entry fee will build and compete in boats made of only duct tape and wood.

An organization that often par-

ticipates in CityDays is the Greater Boston Food Bank, Soucy said. It's 'a great place for people to turn manual labor into something fun and meaningful, and many people who go there during CityDays often organize future trips there," she

Freshmen will participate in CityDays with their Orientation groups. Their CityDays t-shirts will allow students onto Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority transportation for free during CityDays

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The Tech's Guide to Student-Friendly Local Banks

By Jenny Zhang
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

By now, you've probably seen the banks setting up in the Student Center with their colorful logos and friendly college-aged employees, trying to lure you into opening an account with them. How do you know which one is right?

There are many options, including online banking, the MIT Federal Credit Union, and traditional banks such as Fleet and Cambridge

Generally, Internet banking is advantageous in that you don't need to worry about finding a branch nearby, transactions move along much more quickly, and you can get a higher interest rate. However, many banks that are not available exclusively online add the Internet banking option for

The MITFCU, which only recently became available to undergraduates, is open exclusively to MIT community members, as the name suggests. It is non-profit, so any profits are returned to MIT-FCU members, said Maria Connelly, MITFCU marketing assistant.

When choosing a bank, there are several factors to consider such as ATM accessibility, monthly fees, and minimum balance requirements. Your decision will have to be based on which you feel are more important; for example, if you like convenience but don't mind paying a monthly fee for it, choose Fleet; the ATMs are all over the place at MIT and in

Below are listed several different options for banking in Cambridge and Boston and features of basic checking accounts.



MIT Federal Credit Union representative Kimberly Shooter shows first-year graduate student Divya Mathur locations of Credit Union ATMs on a map.

Banking Options for MIT Students							
Bank Name and Account Type	ATM Locations and Fees	Card Acceptance	Monthly Fee	Minimum Balance?			
Cambridge Trust Personal Checking	Harvard Square, Kendall, University Park@MIT, several in Boston, fee on non-Cambridge Trust ATMs	Anywhere Mastercard is taken	\$5 per month and \$0.35 per transaction for balances less than \$500	None with monthly fee			
Three on campus, one to be in Student Center by winter, fee for non-MITFCU ATMs withdrawals		Visa credit card with \$500 credit limit, or Mastercard Debit	None	No			
Fleet Student Checking	All around MIT, Boston area	Visa debit card	Free for one year then \$5 per month	No			
Citizens Bank Basic Checking	Nearest is in Central Square, no fee for Citizens Bank ATMs, fee for other ATMs	Mastercard debit card	\$2.50	No			
No ATMs near MIT, first 5 non- Citibank withdrawals are free, then a fee		Mastercard debit card	If balance is at least \$1500, no monthly fee, \$3 monthly fee otherwise	None with fee			
1st Internet Bank No ATMs nearby but up to \$6 rebate on ATM fees per month		Visa check card	\$5 per month for balances less than \$500	\$100			
NetBank	Fee on non-NetBank ATM use	Visa check card	None	No			

MIT Computing Help Desk

We're Hiring Student Consultants

If you are:

- a logical problem solver
- patient, friendly, motivated to help
- good at explaining technical topics
- seeking relevant work experience
- · eager to learn in a team setting
- seeking a starting rate of \$12.50/hr

Come meet us at our information session:

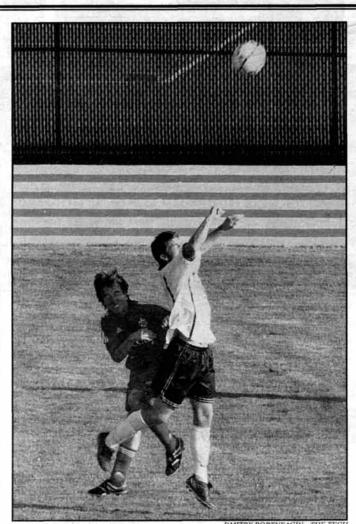
MIT Computing Help Desk Info Session Thursday, September 4th, 2003 5:15 - 6:45 pm N42 Demo Center

211 Mass Ave, across from NECCO/Novartis



Attendance at the session is required for all applicants. Candidates should also submit a resume by noon on September 4th to: hd-hiring@mit.edu

http://web.mit.edu/helpdesk/hiring.html



An MIT defender wins the battle for ball control in a soccer scrimmage Wednesday afternoon against McGill University. McGill won the match 2-1.



PUBLIC SERVICE CENTER

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